By-passing of Labour Laws by economic reforms

1047. SHRI B.J. PANDA: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that ILO has remarked that economic reforms have by passed labour laws and practices;

(b) whether the world agency feels that the legislative initiatives are slow and inadequate to promote harmonious labour-management relations; and

(c) if so, what other inadequacies were noticed by the world agency in the system and Government's action plan to make up deficiencies in the field?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR (SHRI SAHIB SINGH VERMA): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Not applicable in view of the above.

Unemployed persons

1048. SHRI JIBON ROY: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) the number of unemployed persons registered with the employment exchanges, as on the 30th June, 2003;

(b) the number of persons opted for VRS during the years 1998-2003; and

(c) the number of establishments closed perpetually during the above period?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR (SHRI SAHIB SINGH VERMA): (a) Number of job-seekers, all of whom are not necessarily unemployed, on the live register of employment exchanges in the country as on Sept., 2003 (latest available) was of the order 4.15 crore.

(b) Information on the total number of persons who opted for VRS considering both private and public sector during 1998-2003 is not available.

(c) As per the information collected by Labour Bureau, Number of establishments affected by closures during 1998-2003 are given below:

Year	No. of closures establishments
1998	175
1999	159
2000	138
2001	151
2002	213
2003 (Jan.-Sept.)P	65

Unemployed engineers and diploma holders

1049. SHRI SATISH PRADHAN: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that the number of engineers and diploma holders are growing day by day and now searching jobs in various fields;

(b) if so, Government's response thereto;

(c) whether Government are considering any proposal to issue Government's various departmental small contracts/proposal to the unemployed engineers/diploma holders so that these youth can start their own business and get enough experience; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR (SHRI SAHIB SINGH VERMA): (a) and (b) Number of engineers (graduates & post graduates) and diploma holders, all of whom are not necessarily unemployed, on the live register of employment exchanges in the country was of the order of 2.16 lakh and 7.64 lakh as on December, 2001 as compared to 2.10 lakh and 7.33 lakh as on December, 2000.

(c) and (d) At present, there is no proposal under the consideration of the Ministry of Labour. However Government is implementing various